

REMARKS

In the Non-Final Office Action mailed November 14, 2008, claims 1, 3, 4, 6-20, 50, 52-58, 91, 95 -116, 120-137 were pending. Claims 19, 53-56, 105, 120 and 130 were withdrawn as being directed to non-elected species. Claims 125-129 and 131-134 were allowed, and claims 8, 9, 14-18, 100-104, 107 and 112-116 were objected to but indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form incorporating the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 10-13, 20, 50, 52, 57, 58, 91, 95-99, 106, 108, 109, 121-124 and 135-137 stand rejected.

In this response, claims 1, 3, 6, 7, 10, 15, 19, 20, 50, 91, 96, 97, 101, 106, 112, 135, and 136 are amended, and claims 9, 12-14, 52, 98-100 and 107 are cancelled in addition to the previously cancelled claims. Claims 1, 3, 4, 6-8, 10-11, 15-20, 50, 53-58, 91, 95 -97, 101-106, 108-116, and 120-137 are now pending.

The present amendment is presented to rewrite the allowable but objected to claims in condition for allowance. In addition, the subject matter of the allowable claims has been incorporated into other ones of the rejected independent claims from which the allowable claims did not depend. Since allowable subject matter is incorporated into these claims, the amendments are believed to place those claims and the application in condition for allowance.

Claims 1, 3, 4, 6, 20, 91, 97, 136, and 137 stand rejected for obviousness-type double patenting in view of several references. Claims 1 and 20 are amended above to be rewritten in dependent form and to depend from claim 7, and claim 91 is amended to be rewritten in dependent form to depend from claim 97. Claim 7 has been amended to include the features of allowable claim 9, and claims 97 and 136 have been amended to recite features of allowable claim 107. Claims 9 and 107 were not rejected for obviousness-type double patenting, and therefore amended independent claims 7, 97 and 136 are not believed to be subject to the double patenting rejection. Claims 1, 3, 4, 6 and 20 depend from allowable claim 7, claim 91 depends from allowable claim 97, and claim 137 depends from allowable claim 136. In view of the amendments to these claims, withdrawal of the double patenting rejections is respectfully requested.

In the amendments above, claim 7 is amended to include allowable claim 9 and claim 9 is cancelled. Claims 1, 3, 6, 19 and 20 are amended to depend from claim 7. Therefore, claim 7 along with claims 1, 3, 4, 6, 8, 19 and 20 depending therefrom are allowable.

Claim 10 is amended to include the features of allowable claim 14 along with intervening claims 12 and 13, and claims 12-14 are cancelled. Claim 15 is amended to depend from claim 10. Therefore, claim 10 along with claims 11 and 15-18 depending therefrom are allowable.

Independent claim 50 has been amended to include the features similar to those recited in allowable claim 107. Therefore, claim 50 is believed allowable even though claim 107 does not depend from claim 50. Claim 52 has been cancelled. Claim 50 along with claims 53-58 depending therefrom are believed allowable.

Claim 96 is amended to include the features of allowable claim 100 along with intervening claims 98 and 99. Claims 98-100 are cancelled. Claim 101 is amended to depend from claim 96. Therefore, claim 96 along with claims 101-104 depending therefrom are allowable.

Independent claim 97 has been amended to include the features similar to those recited in allowable claim 107. Therefore, claim 97 is believed allowable even though claim 107 does not depend from claim 97. Claim 91 has been amended to depend from claim 97. Therefore, claim 97 along with claims 91, 95 and 105 depending therefrom are believed allowable.

Claim 106 is amended to include the features of allowable claim 107 depending therefrom, and claim 107 is cancelled. Claims 108-111 and 120-124 depend from claim 106 and are also allowable.

Claim 112 is rewritten in independent form to include claims 106, 108, 110, and 111 therein. Therefore, claim 112 is allowable along with claims 113—116 depending therefrom.

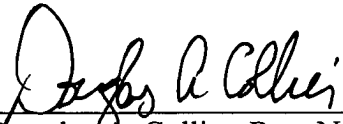
Each of independent claims 135 and 136 has been amended to include the features of allowable claim 107. Therefore, claims 135 and 136 are believed allowable even

though claim 107 does not depend from these claims. Claim 137 depends from claim 136 and therefore is also allowable.

Withdrawn claims 19, 53-56, 105, 120 and 130 now depend from allowable base claims, and reinstatement of the withdrawn claims is respectfully requested.

In view of the above, the present application including claims 1, 3, 4, 6-8, 10-11, 15-20, 50, 53-58, 91, 95 -97, 101-106, 108-116, and 120-137 are now pending and in condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance is hereby requested. The Examiner is welcome to contact the undersigned to resolve any outstanding issues with regard to the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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